

The City of Springfield, Ohio
City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 13, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
City Hall Forum

The meeting was called to order by President Copeland. Roll call was answered by Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

The invocation was offered by Mr. Copeland, who then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, members approved the minutes of the March 30, 2021, Legislative Meeting as presented.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

FIRST READINGS—ORDINANCES

The following legislation was read by title only for the first time and requires presentation at a second regular meeting before vote on passage:

104-21 Confirming and approving a Development Incentive Agreement (Single Family Residential Development) with Elise R. Funderburgh to provide for sewer services to real property outside the City limits.

105-21 To amend Ordinance No. 91-90, passed March 12, 1991, and commonly known as the Codified Ordinances of The City of Springfield, Ohio, by amending certain provisions of the Traffic and General Offenses Codes.

Dr. Estrop asked for additional information on the proposed changes. City Manager Heck explained the updated sections align the City's traffic and general offenses codes to match the state laws. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a delay in preparation of code revisions resulting in updates from late 2019 through early 2021.

Mrs. Chilton asked for an explanation of Section 331.43 pertaining to wearing earplugs or earphones. Police Chief Graf explained the section addresses distracted driving for motorists wearing a device that could prevent someone from hearing emergency vehicles. Motorcyclists wearing hearing protection are excluded from this section.

Upon further question by Mr. O'Neill, Chief Graf explained a motorist using headphones or earplugs would not be initially stopped for this type of violation, but it could be identified as a factor in a traffic stop.

Mr. Copeland noted this is already Ohio law to be added to Springfield traffic code.

106-21 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Plat Agreement - Bridgewater Subdivision Phase 3 between the City and Bridgewater Project I, LLC; and authorizing the City Manager, Law Director and Finance Director to do all things necessary to implement the said Plat Agreement - Bridgewater Subdivision Phase 3.

Dr. Estrop asked for an update on the Bridgewater Subdivision lot sales. Mr. Heck noted the developer, Ryan Homes, has sold all of the lots in Phase 1 and currently selling lots in Phase 2. Phase 3 proposes 52 additional lots.

107-21 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Land Lease Agreement with FETI Aviation, LLC consisting of approximately 0.25 acre.

180-20 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Gary Gilbert, Jr. dba Gilbert's Lawn Service for abatement and nuisance conditions services as needed by the City, to increase the contract in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for a total amount not to exceed \$70,000.00.

Mrs. Chilton requested additional information on the amendment for both the Gilbert and the OMAC contracts. Planning, Zoning and Code Administrator Thompson explained the contract with both companies began in September 2020. The proposed increase of \$40,000 would allow both companies to continue through the contract period. Citizens may report junk and trash complaints to the Code Enforcement Office by calling 937-324-7385 or on the City's website.

181-20 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into Amendment No. 1 to the contract with OMAC Hauling, Inc. for abatement and nuisance conditions services as needed by the City, to increase the contract in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for a total amount not to exceed \$70,000.00.

~~~~~ Next regular City Commission meeting: April 27, 2021. ~~~~~

**SECOND READINGS—ORDINANCES**

The following legislation was presented for a second time:

**94-21      Ordinance No. 21-111: Authorizing participation in the ODOT winter contract for Road Salt.**

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**95-21      Ordinance No. 21-112: Authorizing the issuance of a purchase order for the purchase of two (2) Stainless Steel Dump Bodies, including bed covers and road temperature sensors, from K.E. Rose Co. for an amount not to exceed \$183,390.00.**

Dr. Estrop asked for confirmation the stainless steel dump bodies are used because of road salt and other corrosive materials. Mr. Heck confirmed and noted the overall lifespan is longer with the stainless steel product.

On motion of Mrs. Chilton, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**96-21      Ordinance No. 21-113: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Cropland Lease Agreement [2021-2025] with Joseph Agle to lease 74.466 acres at the Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport, of which 42.933 acres are tillable farmland; and confirming and approving services provided by Joseph Agle from December 1, 2020 to the passage of this ordinance.**

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

### **EMERGENCY ORDINANCES**

The following emergency legislation was presented for the first time:

**12-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-114: Confirming purchases and the obtaining of services for the City and providing for payments therefor; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**97-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-115: Authorizing the City Manager to submit the 2021 Action Plan of The City of Springfield, Ohio to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"); authorizing the City Manager, Law Director and Finance Director enter into grant agreements and to do all things they deem necessary to implement, operate and administer the City's Community Development Block Grant Program, Emergency Solutions Grant Program and HOME Program for the 2021 fiscal year (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022); and declaring an emergency therein.**

Commissioners spoke favorably of the 2021 Action Plan as prepared and noted a copy was available on the City's website.

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**108-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-116: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a State & Municipal Lease/Purchase Agreement with Clayton Holdings, LLC, and related Escrow Agreement by and among Clayton Holdings, LLC, UMB Bank, N.A., and the City of Springfield, Ohio, in the principal amount of \$451,000.00 to finance the purchase of one (1) HV607 SBA Truck, one (1) HV507 SBA Truck and one (1) Ford Super Duty F-550 Truck; authorizing the City Manager, Finance Director, City Treasurer and Law Director to all things they deem necessary to enter into and complete the subject lease transaction; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Dr. Estrop asked about local sources for truck purchases. Mr. Heck commented that local sources are used whenever possible. Service Director Moore explained the HV607 and HV507 trucks are Navistar International heavy-duty series trucks replacing existing International vehicles that will be passed down to other divisions. The one Ford truck is a specialty water valve operation truck replacing a vehicle damaged by fire last year. Mr. Moore noted there are 61 International vehicles in the City's fleet.

Mrs. Chilton asked for details on the lease agreement, and Finance Director Beckdahl explained the best financing option for this equipment was a five-year lease.

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**109-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-117: Authorizing the purchase of one 2022 HV507 SBA Truck for an amount not to exceed \$75,907.49, from Rush Truck Centers, through the Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing Program in accordance with the provisions of Section 5513.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mrs. Chilton, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**110-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-118: Authorizing the purchase of one 2022 HV607 SBA Truck for an amount not to exceed \$79,840.73, from Rush Truck Centers, through the Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing Program in accordance with the provisions of Section 5513.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**111-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-119: Authorizing the acceptance of a donation from the Defense Logistics Agency of eight Dell 17" computer monitors valued at \$258.76 each and six Marince remote control spotlights valued at \$327.59 each, for a total value of \$4,035.62; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**4-17      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-120: Confirming and approving Change Order No. 1 to the contract between the City and Brumbaugh Construction, Inc. for the CLA McCreight Avenue Project, PID No. 104831, to increase the contract in an amount not to exceed \$31,750.70, for a total amount not to exceed \$2,491,901.70; authorizing the City Manager to execute said Change Order No. 1; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Dr. Estrop asked for details on the requested change order, and Mr. Moore reviewed four items including crosswalks near Lagonda School.

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**155-20      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-121: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Moonlite Municipal Contracting LLC for the 2021 Waterline Replacements Project for an amount not to exceed \$974,145.13; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**62-20      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-122: Authorizing the increase of a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$16,140.00, for a total cost not to exceed \$80,700.00, for monthly access fees for MARCS Radio Communication System Equipment from The Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Office of Information Technology; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mrs. Chilton, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**126-13      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-123: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an amendment to the contract with The Ohio Bell Telephone Company dba AT&T Ohio for a one-year extension in connection with certain telephone services for municipal purposes for an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Mrs. Chilton inquired on services remaining with AT&T. Mr. Beckdahl explained there are specific telephone lines for security systems, fax machines, and elevators that remain on regular phone service.

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

### **NEW ITEM ADDED TO THE AGENDA: RESOLUTION**

The following legislation was presented for the first time:

**112-21      Resolution No. 6115: Consenting to the reappointment of Alex Wendt to the City Planning Board.**

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Mrs. Chilton, the resolution was adopted.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

### **COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

**2-21      Mrs. Chilton announced the annual Springfield Summer Arts Festival organizers are working on a plan to have the festival this year but no Elvis tribute is planned.**

**2-21      Dr. Estrop asked on behalf of the Clark County Health Commissioner that all citizens over the age of 16 consider getting a COVID-19 vaccination.**

**89-20      Dr. Estrop asked for an update on city operations and finances during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Heck stated that staff cases and exposures are minimal and noted that many employees have received their vaccine. City Hall and other buildings are fully open and public meetings have resumed.**

Mr. Beckdahl reported the individual tax return deadline was extended to May 17, 2021, along with state and federal deadlines. Business returns remain due on April 15. Mr. Beckdahl noted income tax receipts are difficult to compare to last year at this time considering the beginning of the pandemic, but current receipts continue to rebound.

**134-20** Mr. Heck stated staff continues to work with the Ohio Department of Transportation to secure safety funding for the South Limestone Street corridor project. Staff also continues to work with a potential grocery store owner to locate in the former Kroger store.

**2-21** Mr. Copeland spoke on the local police staff treating citizens fairly in light of recent events happening in other cities and states. Mr. Copeland noted Chief Graf's leadership of the local police, and commented on the Community Police Advisory Team formed to monitor the relationship of citizens and police.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

**2-21** Mr. Mike Lowe, requested a written copy of what the City is paying for the housing survey and the developer of the former Kroger store. Mr. Lowe spoke on how much was spent on longevity payments to employees in 2020 and 2019, flyers mailed out related to the upcoming tax levy renewal vote, closures of Fire Station 5 and the Police Substation ahead of the 2017 tax levy vote, hiring of new police officers, and asked how expenses have been cut.

Dr. Estrop spoke on the combined 911 dispatch center with Clark County expected to save \$735,000 in the first year. Dr. Estrop noted Springfield's public safety salaries were some of the lowest in the area resulting in high turnover. Salaries have been adjusted with less turnover. Capital items had been deferred leaving equipment at the end of their expected lifespan. State funding was reduced by \$6 million. Dr. Estrop stated the city would be nearly bankrupt if the levy had not passed in 2017 by the voters.

Mr. Rue noted the tax levy on the May ballot is a renewal and not additional tax.

Upon question by Mrs. Chilton, Mr. Heck explained the tax levy committee raised money to send out postcards to voters about the levy.

**2-21** Mr. David Sanford, 528 Yellow Springs Street, spoke on how commissioners address citizens.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were received and filed:

**53-21** Minutes of the March 8, 2021, meeting of the National Trail Parks and Recreation District Board.

**101-21** Notification from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of a new liquor permit request from Van Shah Ventures LLC dba Winan's Chocolates and Coffees, 1402 North Limestone Street.

**102-21** Quarterly Investment Report, First Quarter, 2021.

**103-21** Notification from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of a liquor permit transfer request from Gayatri LLC dba Jim's to Go & Drive Thru, 2808 East Main Street, to Shree Hari 369 Inc. dba Jim's Drive Thru, 2808 East Main Street.

**113-21** Notification from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of a liquor permit transfer request from RP Oil Co. LLC dba Doc's Drive Thru, 908 West North Street, to AP Oil Company LLC dba Doc's Drive Thru, 908 West North Street.

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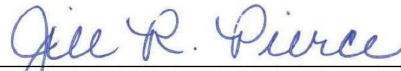
There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Chilton, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.



PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION



CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION